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Bingham McCutchen LLP  
Plaza Tower  
18th Floor  
600 Anton Boulevard  
Costa Mesa, CA  
92626-1924714.830.0600  
714.830.0700 fax

bingham.com

Boston  
Hartford  
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NAME	FAX	PHONE
TO: Examiner Elini M. Mantis Mercader USPTO, Group Art Unit 3737	703-872-9306	

FROM: Michael J. Bolan michael.bolan@bingham.com	(714) 830-0700	(714) 433-0606
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PAGES: (INCLUDING THIS COVER PAGE): 17

RE: US Patent Appln. No. 09/128,304  
Filing Date: August 3, 1998  
Inventor: N. Parker Willis, et al.  
Confirmation No. 2536  
Group Art Unit: 3737

## MESSAGE:

Dear Examiner Mantis Mercader:

Please find attached proposed claim amendments for the above-identified case. Claims 1, 2, 7, 15, 16, 22, 23, 28, 29, 31, 38, 39, 40, and 48-60 have been amended. Independent claims 1, 15, 23, 31, 38, 48, 56, 59, and 60 have been amended to focus on the "transformation" language, which inherently requires the model deformation to be based on the previous model. My understanding is that this limitation is what you believe differentiates Budd. Of course, if this is incorrect, I would be willing to discuss this matter. Amendments to the remaining claims were either made to carry the "transformation" language through to the dependent claims or to fix typographical errors or inconsistencies in claim form.

Please feel free to call me at (714) 830-0600 if you have any questions or concerns.

Regards,

Michael Bolan

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Bingham McCutchen LLP  
Plaza Tower  
18th Floor  
600 Anton Boulevard  
Costa Mesa, CA  
92626-1924

714.930.0600  
714.930.0700 fax

bingham.com

Boston  
New York  
London

	NAME	FAX	PHONE
TO:	Examiner Elini M. Mantis Mercader USPTO, Group Art Unit 3737	703-872-9306	

FROM:	Michael J. Bolan michael.bolan@btnglmcc.com	(714) 830-0700	(714) 433-0606
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